

Rum, Roum, or Rhum?

The question of the correct spelling of the name of our neighbouring island (*Ent. Rec.* 103 *passim*) can be settled if the following facts are allowed for: (a) ROUM is the Scots way of spelling the name, OU in Scots = long U in Gaelic. (b) RH is a Welsh combination of consonants, not used in Gaelic at all. (c) James A. MacKay's *Islands Postal Series* reveals that the official spelling of the name of the Island had been altered from RUM to RHUM to please a well-known proprietor, who came from England. We locals are glad that the correct spelling has been restored. At one time earlier, a previous proprietor of the nearby Isle of Muck had tried to get the name changed to Monk Island, unsuccessfully. Here MUCK = Gaelic MUC = pig, but used in the Isles for WHALE, the full Gaelic name for Whale meaning literally "sea-pig".

As for the origin of the name RUM, it seems to be both pre-Norse and pre-Gaelic, and the meaning unknown, as are names such as MULL, ISLAY (ÌLE), and UIST. RUM can hardly be connected with DRUIM = "Ridge", as the genitive of DRUIM is DROMA, "The island of the ridge" would be EILEAN AN DROMA. Compare Tyndrum in Argyllshire, which is Taigh an Droma in Gaelic = House of the Ridge. Incidentally, the name CANNA is supposed to be connected with Gaelic CANA = a dolphin. Whales and dolphins are frequently seen around these island, and the map shows Canna's dolphin shape.— J.L. CAMPBELL, Isle of Canna.

Early spring moths in June

The spring of 1991 was about a month later than the early springs of 1989 and 1990 and the early summer was cool but dry with below average temperatures producing some unusually late dates for some of the spring moths which emerge in March.

I took *Orthosia stabilis* (D. & S.) and *Orthosia gothica* (L.) as late as 1st June at Freshwater and Mr N. Holland recorded *Xylocampa areola* (Esp.) at mercury vapour light at Queen's Bower, Shanklin on 15th June. This very late date may suggest that this species can sometimes spend two years in the pupal stage.— S.A. KNILL-JONES, 2 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

An additional pupation site of *Limnaecia phragmitella* Stainton (Lep.: Cosmopterigidae)

While examining a dead *Typha latifolia* plant at Colwick, Nottinghamshire on 21st June last, I noticed a number of exit holes in the leaf-sheaths low down on the plant. These were clearly too small for a wainscot species. Some of the holes had been "capped" while others were left open. Pulling these leaves away from the stem revealed short mines with pupae head-upwards close to the exit holes. Additional holes were found in the stem itself and splitting this revealed pupae in the pith. Reference to the *Field Guide* led me to believe that I had discovered the pyralid *Calamotropha paludella* (Hübner), though this would have been a north-westerly

extension of its known range (*British Pyralid Moths*, B. Goater, 1986). I had dismissed *Limnaecia phragmitella* because the *Field Guide* states that it pupates in the seed-heads. However, when the first imago eclosed on 14th July, it was at once obvious that this was not a pyralid but *L. phragmitella* after all, the only other micro known to be associated with *Typha* in Britain. However, because the pupae were in the "wrong" situation, I felt unsure of my own identification and collected more tenanted sections of *Typha* stem which I sent to Col. A.M. Emmet for his appraisal. I was pleased to receive confirmation when his specimens emerged and would like to thank him for his comments and verification.— A.S. BOOT, Buntings Lane, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 1GX.

***Limnaecia phragmitella* in the stems of bulrush**

It seems worth while recording that in April 1991, at Salary Brook, Colchester, I found larvae of *Limnaecia phragmitella* Stainton (Lep.: Cosmopterigidae) abundant in the stems of *Typha latifolia*. At this time of year the plant material rather resembles tightly packed corrugated cardboard, and within these papery layers larvae had spun cocoons made from silk and chewed-up pith, giving an impression that feeding had occurred. Exit holes, measuring 1mm in diameter, each covered by a cap of silk and chewed pith, were constructed by larvae prior to pupation. In *A field guide to the smaller British Lepidoptera* (Edn. 2, 1988) the only pupation site mentioned is in the seed-heads.— B. GOODEY, 298 Ipswich Road, Colchester, Essex.

***Nycteola revayana* Scopoli (Lep.: Noctuidae) during the summer**

Looking back on my past Essex records for the above species over the last five years I found that 50% of captures have occurred during June-July. Although none of the recently published textbooks I have consulted mention a second generation for mainland Britain Pelham-Clinton, in volume 10 of *The moths and butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland* (1983), does state that the species is bivoltine in the Isles of Scilly (p. 321). It would be interesting to know if this is a spreading trend, due perhaps to the warmer summers of late, or whether it is purely a local phenomenon.— B. GOODEY, 298 Ipswich Road, Colchester, Essex.

The Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria* L.) reaches N. Aberdeenshire

Barbour (*Ent. Rec.* 98: 98-105) documented the recent range expansion of *Pararge aegeria* L. in N.E. Scotland, as it spread from the west to reach the Moray Firth by about 1954 and Banffshire (v.c. 94) by 1983. He predicted that Aberdeenshire would be colonised by 1986, and may well have been correct, but partly because of the scarcity of observers there was still no definite record by the beginning of 1991 (R.M. Palmer, unpublished list).

On 4.viii.1991 I was visiting a friend, Mr D. Thorn, whose land backs onto the eastern edge of a mature conifer plantation of pine and spruce known as Kinnoir Wood (NJ 5542), near Huntly in N. Aberdeenshire (v.c.